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62.73
W. Atlee Burpee & Co.
NEW YORK
of
Burpee's

NEW SWEET PEAS

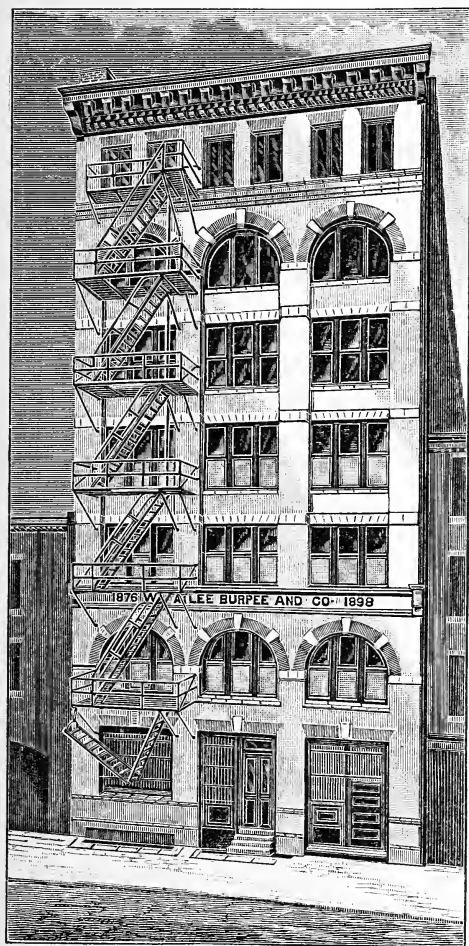
FOR 1899

JUN 18 1898
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Special
Advance Offer
for the
Trade Only



Seed Gardens and
Trial Grounds at
FORDHOOK FARMS
Doylestown, Pa.



OUR NEW WAREHOUSE, —ERECTED IN 1898

W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co.

SEED GROWERS

PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.

Three New Colors for 1899 of The Distinct Dwarf CUPID Sweet Peas.

CUPIDS are grown easily from seed and thrive vigorously wherever the tall Sweet Peas grow. This has been proved abundantly by the advance reports prior to the introduction of **Burpee's PINK Cupid** and by the letters received this summer expressing entire satisfaction on the part of retail purchasers. We admit freely that we were unfortunate in introducing the **WHITE CUPID** as the first of this new race, for like all white-seeded Sweet Peas, this was at first more difficult of germination and, in some sections, less vigorous of growth. Seedsmen generally will recall, however, that there was similar difficulty in getting seed to germinate and grow satisfactorily of both *Emily Henderson* and *Blanche Burpee* when these two tall white-seeded whites were first introduced.

Burpee's PINK Cupid has redeemed already the reputation of this valuable new race and demonstrated what we have claimed,—that **CUPIDS** are as easily grown as the tall Sweet Peas. That those in the trade who have not made thorough trials may know from the testimony of others the reasonableness of our claims, we reprint some of the reports on **PINK CUPID**.

OUR THREE NEW CUPIDS FOR 1899, on account of the seed being so scarce, have not been distributed generally for advance trials (as was the **Pink Cupid**); but two of these—**BURPEE'S BEAUTY** and **ALICE ECKFORD**—being black-seeded will grow equally as vigorously everywhere, while at **FORDHOOK FARMS** the past summer we had splendid stands in our trial grounds of the **PRIMROSE CUPID**,—fully as vigorous in growth as the tall *Primrose*, and the plants remaining in bloom considerably longer.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co.

The first news that Eckford's "SADIE BURPEE"

would be introduced in 1899 reached us in the following letter :

WEM, SHROPSHIRE, August 27, 1898.

MESSRS. W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co.,
PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.

GENTLEMEN :—

Enclosed please find description of New White Sweet Pea, "**SADIE BURPEE**,"—a block shall follow shortly. The variety will be sent out in 1s. packets; we have not harvested the crop yet, but appearances are good for an early harvest. I shall be glad if you make arrangements for distribution in America, and also whatever arrangements you deem fit for the Continental countries in Europe; if you appoint your own agents it will be satisfactory to me.

Packets could be shipped direct to agents to save freight, or otherwise, as you deem advisable. I shall be glad of any suggestion you care to make as to the proper packeting and handling of this novelty, which I am persuaded is absolutely the grandest white.

Kindly convey my kind regards to Mr. Burpee.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY ECKFORD.

When we visited Wem a year ago, Mr. ECKFORD pointed with special pride to this new giant-flowered white, of which he said "*that will even surpass Blanche Burpee*."

The next day he remarked: "As *Blanche Burpee* is known as the only high-grade white, I think this new one should be named also after a member of your family." We expressed, of course, our appreciation of the compliment he purposed again to show us, and a month later, while in Germany, were delighted to hear from Mr. Eckford, in several letters, of the splendid reception accorded to "**SADIE BURPEE**" when placed on exhibition.

As intimated above, we did not imagine, however, that Mr. Eckford would have sufficient seed to place this variety on the market for at least another year. As in the case of *Blanche Burpee* (the only other variety to which he has given an American name) he has decided to put it out in *shilling packets*. This is done because, popular as are Sweet Peas in America, we told him, when he asked our opinion four years ago, about *Blanche Burpee*, that we could not have large sale for a novelty at more than 25 cents per packet. Therefore, he sent out *Blanche Burpee* in packets of ten seeds for 25 cents, and was so pleased with the sales that he is taking a similar course with "**SADIE BURPEE**,"—the distribution of which for America and the Continent of Europe he has placed in our hands, as stated in his letter published above.

For description of "**SADIE BURPEE**," see page 13.

NEW SWEET PEAS

FOR 1899.

Philadelphia, October 1st, 1898.

To the Seed Trade:

In presenting this list we would invite special attention to the **THREE NEW CUPIDS**—BURPEE'S BEAUTY, ALICE ECKFORD, and PRIMROSE—as undoubtedly **the most important Novelties for 1899.**

We offer all of these at uniform prices as follows:

In regular size packets (each containing twenty-four seeds):

Per pkt. 25 cts.; 5 pkts. for \$1.00; per dozen pkts. \$2.00;

Per 100 pkts. \$12.50.

A lower rate will be quoted **by the thousand packets.**

In half-size packets (each containing twelve seeds):

Per pkt. 15 cts.; 2 pkts. for 25 cts.; or 10 pkts. for \$1.00;

Per 100 pkts. \$7.50.

A lower rate will be quoted **by the thousand packets.**

Electrotypes of any of the illustrations will be furnished as stated (practically free) to seedsmen for catalogue use. All the packets will be uniform, as stated above, and will bear each an illustration and description. The seed must be offered only in our original sealed packets and at the uniform retail prices. We will decline to supply at wholesale any houses who may *cut* the established retail prices.

Our new Tall Sweet Peas and other Novelties now first offered to the trade have been proven thoroughly and may be relied upon to come absolutely true to the descriptions given. Henry Eckford's Novelty "SADIE BURPEE" is sure to become popular as the first giant-flowered White Sweet Pea that is both *black-seeded* and white-seeded.

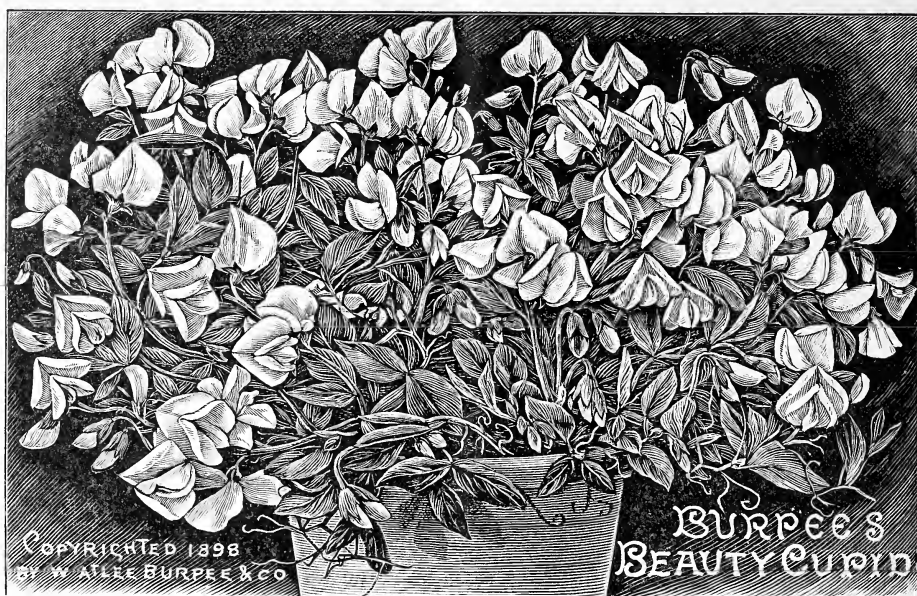
A list of special wholesale agents in Europe (for our three NEW CUPID SWEET PEAS) is given on the last page of this circular. All orders from North or South America should be addressed direct to **the Introducers.**

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.,

475 and 477 North Fifth Street,
476 and 478 York Avenue,

PHILADELPHIA, U. S. A.

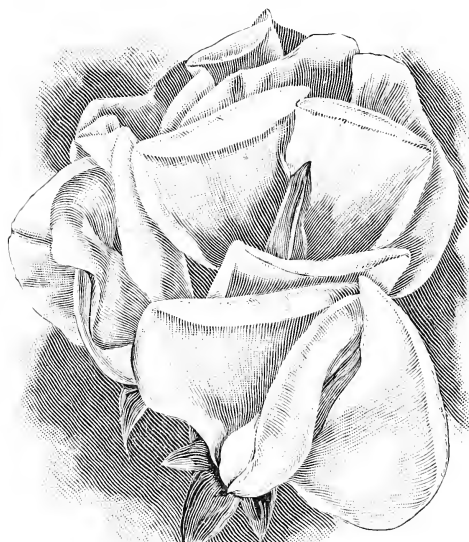
Cable Address,—BURPEE, PHILADELPHIA.



Accurately reproduced from a Photograph.

Electrotype, 50 cts.

New Dwarf CUPID Sweet Pea,—Burpee's "BEAUTY."



**BURPEE'S
BEAUTY
CUPID**

Electrotype, 30 cts.

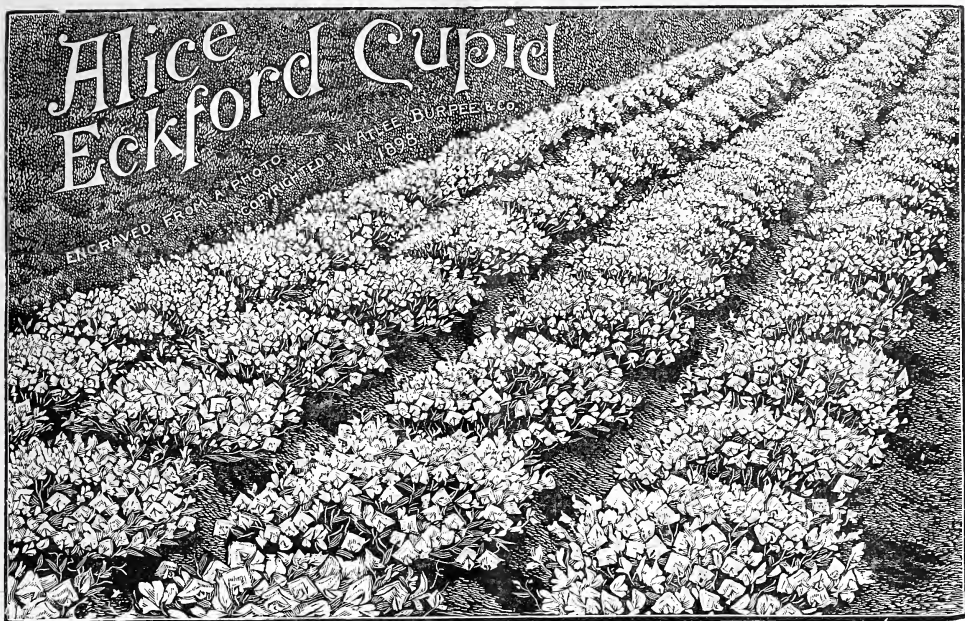
COPYRIGHTED 1898

"This is by far the finest individual type of flower in the Cupid race." The sentence just quoted we find at the beginning of the notes made by the Superintendent of our trial grounds after critical examination of the Cupids now offered and several not yet introduced, but which were growing in comparison at FORDHOOK FARMS the past season. Greatly admired as were all the Cupids at Fordhook, where they grew most luxuriantly and bloomed for a long season the past summer, the quite large block of this distinct and charming variety, with its great profusion of richly colored flowers would naturally draw forth the exclamation, "That IS a Beauty!"

BURPEE'S BEAUTY CUPID, while being always of the true Cupid type—growing only six to seven inches high with deep emerald-green foliage—bears flowers fully equal in size, form, and substance to the best of the new tall Sweet Peas. The handsome large flowers are borne most profusely all over the plant in clusters of three at the top of strong stems. Of unusual breadth, rather pointed at the top, and edges recurved, giving it the deeply hooded effect of *Prince of Wales* or *Her Majesty*. The keel is heavily curved, holding the wings well up under the standard; wings quite broad, well expanded, with slightly recurved edges. The standard is a delicate and yet *decided rose color*, lightening to nearly white at the edges, and slightly striped with carmine at the base. The wings are suffused rosy-carmine, deepening at the edges. A vigorous grower, it is a wonderfully free bloomer,

and besides its beauty in the garden promises to be of real value as a commercial flower in greenhouses. *Sold only in our original sealed packets.*

Prices the same as for Alice Eckford Cupid, offered on following page.



Electrotype, 50 cts.

New Dwarf Sweet Pea,—ALICE ECKFORD CUPID

From personal inspection of this new variety for the past two seasons we consider it the most charming of the new Cupids, or dwarf race of Sweet Peas, surpassing all other varieties in the delicately beautiful coloring of the flowers. The blooms, while of only medium size, are of fine, erect form, and borne in close clusters of three on stiff stems, displaying most attractively the charming, blended-coloring. The standards are a rich, creamy-white, suffused or blended with a delicate shading of soft flesh-pink; the wings are silvery-white with a faint pink flush in the central portion. The coloring of the entire flower becomes rather deeper, instead of fading, when well opened. The flower is identical, in size, form, and color, with that of the tall *Alice Eckford*, which, while not of the largest size, has been admired so greatly on account of the delicate and harmonious shadings of softly blended tints. Three years ago, when introducing the tall *Alice Eckford*, MR. HENRY ECKFORD said: "A refined, beautiful flower; the most chaste variety ever offered." These remarks are even more applicable to the *Alice Eckford Cupid*, because of its peculiar deep emerald-green foliage, forming so appropriate a background for the mass of bloom.



The plants grow in the regular, dwarf, compact form of the *Cupids*, with the dense deep-green foliage, which makes not only a beautiful setting for the profusion of delicate blossoms, but also shades the soil about the roots more effectually than a mulch, and enables the plants to continue in bloom much longer during hot dry weather than any of the tall-growing sorts. It is a *black-seeded* variety of strong vitality, so that no difficulty need be feared in securing a good stand of plants, even under adverse circumstances, while like all the *Cupid* varieties it will bloom much longer and more freely during hot dry weather than any of the tall varieties of Sweet Peas.

Sold only in our original sealed packets.

Per packet of 24 seeds, 25 cts.; 5 pkts. for \$1.00, or \$2.00 per dozen packets.

Wholesale, \$12.50 per 100 packets.

A lower price by the thousand packets.

Half-size packets, each containing 12 seeds, per pkt. 15 cts.; 2 pkts. for 25 cts., or ten packets for \$1.00.

Wholesale, \$7.50 per 100 packets.

A lower price by the thousand packets.

New Dwarf Sweet Pea,—PRIMROSE CUPID.



A POT-PLANT OF CUPID,—from a Photograph. Electrotype, 30 cts.

wide and well expanded. The seed we offer is all hand-picked and therefore, although *white-seeded*, will grow nearly as vigorously as the hardier *black-seeded* varieties.

Prices the same as for Alice Eckford Cupid.



A FIELD OF BURPEE'S PINK CUPID. Engraved from a Photograph. Electrotype, 50 cts.

Dwarf Sweet Pea,—Burpee's PINK Cupid

This little wonder, introduced in 1898, like the original Cupid, hails from California, and we paid *fifteen hundred dollars cash* for the exclusive ownership when there were only 1060 seeds in existence. It is not a sport from the original White Cupid, but an actual departure from its parent, the tall *Blanche Ferry*. In habit and manner of growth it is strictly a Cupid, spreading from the root, from a foot to eighteen inches around, growing from six to eight inches high, and shooting up stems about six inches long, which bear, in full bloom at once, from *three to four handsome blossoms*, all borne close to the end of the stem.

The standard of the flower is wide, not infrequently measuring an inch and a half, but not over an inch high, being developed laterally. It usually curves over a trifle from the top, partly concave, which gives the standard a distinct shell-shaped appearance. The standard is a bright rose-pink, while the wings are pure white or light pink. Though flowering early, it continues in bloom very late, bearing a profusion of blossoms so thickly as to completely hide the plant itself. In our field crops, both in California and New York, a large piece of them looks as if the ground were literally strewn with bright pink rose-buds.

Wholesale, \$1.50 per lb.

Reports on Burpee's PINK Cupid.

MESSRS. FISHER, SON & SIBRAY, Sheffield, England, August 20, 1897, write:—Very great improvement on Cupid in size of flower, and a profuse bloomer.

MESSRS. PETER LAWSON & SON, LIMITED, Edinburgh, Scotland, August 31, 1897, write:—In reply to yours of the 20th, we tested the PINK CUPID SWEET PEA, and found it a pleasing and attractive Novelty, for which we expect there will be a good demand.

MESSRS. W. CLIBRAN & SON, Manchester, England, August 21, 1897, write:—In reply to yours of the 20th of August, no doubt the NEW SWEET PEA PINK CUPID will be an acquisition. It is a pleasing color, and the flowers do not seem to drop the same as the White variety.

MESSRS. FIDLER & SONS, Reading, England, August 21, 1897, write:—We are duly in receipt of your kind inquiry. We have made a trial of the NEW PINK CUPID SWEET PEA, and have found it do exceeding well. We consider it a novelty of splendid merit, and must prove a great acquisition to the Sweet Pea class.

MESSRS. E. P. DIXON & SONS, Hull, England, August 21, 1897, write:—The Pink Cupid Sweet Pea has done very well with us, growing about seven inches high, and producing very handsome pink flowers; it blooms freely and will be very suitable for pot culture.

MESSRS. DOBBIE & CO., Orpington, Kent, England, August 23, 1897, write:—We duly received the packet of Sweet Pea "PINK CUPID"; nine of the ten seeds grew and produced plants which have bloomed more freely we think than Cupid. It has really done very well with us. Cupid does very well with us as in any place, we have seen. The color of Pink Cupid is good, and it will prove a valuable companion to the White one.

F. B. GAULT, President of the University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho, Sept. 14, 1897, writes:—Replying to your favor of Sept. 7, would state that we have found BURPEE'S PINK CUPID very satisfactory so far as prolific blooming and beauty of flower is concerned. It is very attractive.

GEORGE VESTAL, Professor of Agriculture and Horticulture, New Mexico College of Agriculture and Agricultural Experiment Station, Mesilla Park, N. M., Sept. 14, 1897, writes:—The plants from BURPEE'S PINK CUPID seed sent to this station for trial last winter did finely. The plants are very compact and floriferous. The color quite distinct and pleasing. As compared with White Cupid they grew and bloomed freer.

WEEBER & DON, Seed Merchants, 114 Chambers Street, New York, Sept. 7, 1897, write:—Replying to yours of the 2d inst., regarding PINK CUPID SWEET PEAS sent us for trial last year, we would say that we tested same, and the results were entirely satisfactory. The dwarf form being very useful in pot culture, and the colors of the flowers perfect. We think it a good "Novelty." Every seed grew and formed a plant.

Geo. C. BUTZ, M. S., Horticulturist of the Pennsylvania State College Agricultural Experiment Station, State College, Centre Co., Pa., Sept. 9, 1897, writes:—From the ten seeds of BURPEE'S PINK CUPID SWEET PEA we have ten good plants, which began flowering when seven inches high, and now, full grown, are but fourteen inches long. As they rest upon the ground they make a mass of foliage and flowers about ten inches high. The flowers are above medium size, with broad, erect, slightly convex standard; the wings are large and arch over the keel after the manner of the White Cupid. The color of the standard is a light shade of pink, finely striped with carmine-pink; the wings are rose-purple blotched with white. Burpee's Pink Cupid is an excellent companion for the White Cupid, and will always have a place.

L. W. GODELL, Seedsman and Florist, Pansy Park, Dwight, Mass., Sept. 7, 1897, writes:—The packet of PINK CUPID SWEET PEA sent me for trial contained eleven seeds. They were planted early in March on a greenhouse bench along with other seeds. Every seed grew; in fact, there were twelve plants, an examination showing that one of the seeds had produced two sprouts, evidently having had two embryos. After they had grown an inch or two they were transplanted to four-inch pots, and finally shifted to the flowering pots, five and six-inch. The plants were rather slender at first, but soon made strong lateral growths and fine plants. They have flowered freely, the first flowers opening early in June, and are still in bloom at this date, although they do not flower so freely now as earlier in the season. It is, in my opinion, a valuable acquisition. Its beautiful color, just like Blanche Ferry, and the fact that the seeds germinate as freely under ordinary conditions as any of the common varieties, will, no doubt, make it the most popular novelty of 1898.

MESSRS. HURST & SON, 152, Houndsditch, London, England, Sept. 18, 1897, write:—When sending you copies of the reports from our customers in re PINK CUPID SWEET PEA, we by an oversight omitted to include that from Mr. Sherwood. We now have pleasure in saying he considers this variety a great acquisition and a fitting companion to the white variety. It is very floriferous, excellent in color and well fixed in habit. For pots or ribbon bordering it will be found all that is desired.

The New Sweet Pea, Pink Cupid.

It may be remembered that White Cupid was a failure at the Rural Grounds last year. The plants seemed to lack vitality, and most of them died before blooming. In the same place, we planted, last spring (April 16th), seeds of the Pink Cupid, also an introduction of W. Atlee Burpee, of Philadelphia. The plants now (July 18th) are about eight inches in height. The foliage is dark green and healthy. All are alike in habit, and all of the flowers are of the same color. There are no sports. We have compared the flowers with Burpee's Earliest of All, the vines of which grow three feet in height; we cannot tell one flower from the other. The standards are pink, the wings a delicate, purplish-white. The colored picture on the back of Burpee's catalogue shows, without exaggeration, the plant and flowers.—From THE RURAL NEW YORKER, New York, July 30, 1898.

California Crop Report.

Sweet peas have been a losing crop for the legitimate grower; a few stray lots produced by farmers may have paid where no work or expense was incurred in roguing the crop. Burpee's New Pink Cupid is a gem and will be a taking novelty and give excellent satisfaction to the retail buyer. The flowers are large and the plants remain in blossom very late compared with the taller sorts.—CHARLES P. BRASLAN, Santa Clara, August 1, 1898, in THE AMERICAN FLORIST, Chicago, August 6, 1898.

European Notes.

American Novelties in Sweet Peas appear to be growing in favor on this side. Thus Aurora has gained an award of merit from the Royal Horticultural Society, and Golden Gate is recommended for the same honor. The reports on the success of Pink Cupid are very favorable and will do much toward helping to remove the bad impression created by the comparative failure of its more delicate white brother. It will also probably help the sales of both another season. They have not come up to our expectations this year.—"EUROPEAN SEEDS" in THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, July 30, 1898.

The Sweet Pea Crop.

Sweet Peas are also improving daily, and if the gloomy anticipations of the growers on your side are verified by results our growers may be disposed to take up their culture once more. The Pink Cupid is now in bloom and fully justified our expectations, although the color is different to what we had supposed it would be. It is a Blanche Ferry with the Cupid habit reproduced in every particular, and unless America has something of a more startling nature in store for us it will probably be the novelty for next season.—"EUROPEAN SEEDS" in THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, July 3, 1897.

Editorial from AMERICAN GARDENING,

New York, September 18, 1897.

Concerning the Cupid Sweet Peas.

WHEN first it was announced that a new race of dwarf Sweet Pea had sprung into existence, a considerable amount of excitement was manifested throughout horticultural circles in Europe as well as in our own country. The possible value of this new arrival was largely discussed in the columns of AMERICAN GARDENING at the time, and it must be allowed the evidence produced was of a very conflicting nature.

In the year following the introduction of the original White Cupid Sweet Pea, the appearance of another dwarf with pink flowers began to be spoken of, and the introducers, MESSRS. W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co., of Philadelphia, early this season distributed among horticulturists a few seeds of the pink variety for trial. It has been noticed that while the Cupid Sweet Peas have not been so well favored in this country, the European gardeners have reported most favorably upon them, and it has been argued that though the plant did well on the Pacific coast it would not hold up on the Atlantic-sea-board. In view of recent experiences of our own, it is well to ask,—Why this suggestion? It would seem that those who have reported adversely upon these novelties have been judging from a wrong standpoint—that of the cut-flower grower, as is evidenced by the communication which appeared in our issue of July 17th last (page 502). Again, there have doubtless been errors of cultivation or treatment.

The demands of the decorative horticulturist are for many other plants than those which furnish flowers for cutting, and each one has its place; the evergreen shrub for perpetual greenery and life in winter; the grass plants to make a lawn as a setting for the flower beds; the ornamental foliaged plants to give color to a formal design: each has its use, and while each subject affords a mine of pleasure and satisfaction in its proper place, disappointment is sure to follow its improper application, and herein do so many mentors of horticultural opinion and taste fall into error.

That the Cupid Sweet Peas have suffered by just such conditions is apparent. The plants are essentially bedders—flowering bedders—and we are convinced by a recent experience in Jefferson County, N. Y., that, properly used in its own sphere, the dwarf Sweet Pea is to be placed in rank with other first-class plants of that type. No one grumbles at the Portulaca, yet it is but a flowering bedder, and how valuable in quiet suggestion are these Cupid Sweet Peas can only be realized by an actual inspection of such a showing as is represented in our frontispiece illustration in this issue, which is an actual photograph of the pink Cupid bed referred to in the foregoing remarks.

The effect produced by thus massing in an area 50 x 40 feet, was astonishing to one who had before seen but a few isolated plants. Not only was the color fine (it is that of *Blanche Ferry* Sweet Pea, from which the pink Cupid has sported), but there was added the shading and blending of the hues of rosy-pink as the sun's rays glinted across a sheet of blooms in all positions, some full on, some sideways; there was moreover the ever welcome fragrance of the Sweet Pea wafted on the breeze.

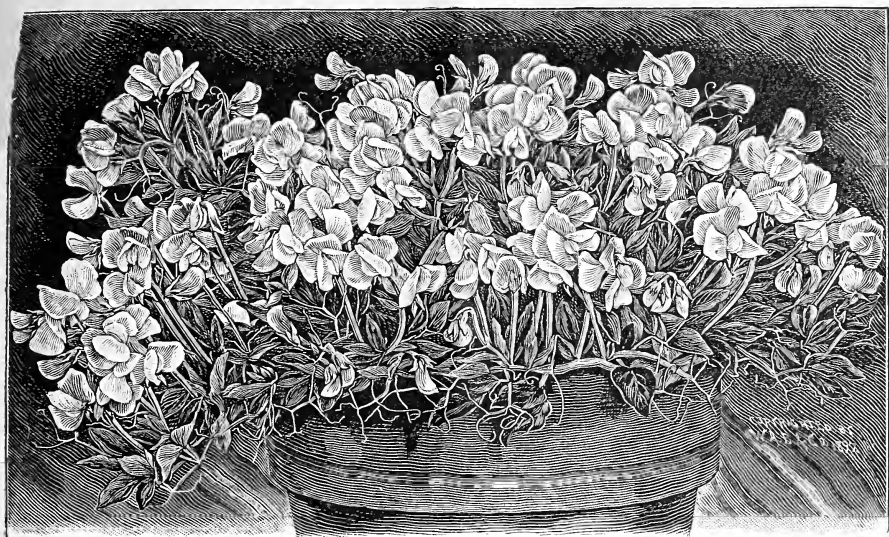
And this matter of fragrance is not by any means a minor detail, though occasionally in our modern rush for "development" we are liable to sacrifice that prime quality to other considerations of size, form, and color. For was it not the fragrance that first called man's attention to the original *Lathyrus odoratus*? The name itself tells us so; and is not the *Violet's* chief charm in its odor?

A German contemporary has in a recent issue attacked the pink and white Cupid Sweet Peas; and, after reproducing certain discourteous allusions of a native seed firm, to "strictly American pompous recommendations," goes on to relate the same author's remarks that the plant is a "dwarf garden vetch," which it certainly is not. It further, "to complete the different expressions of opinion," quotes from AMERICAN GARDENING the sentences referred to in the first part of this note, and leaves the reader to infer that it was the expression of the paper itself. We object to that, and the *Handelsblatt* of Berlin will oblige by accepting with our compliments the present expression of opinion of the merits of the Cupid Sweet Peas.

The owner of the bed of pink Cupids, which is shown on page 645, informed us that the seed was sown two and a half inches deep in hills two feet six inches apart, and the whole then treated as a hoed crop. The soil was a heavy cold clay loam, and had received a surface dressing of lime, but this application can hardly have had much influence on the plants which were perfectly at home, flowering profusely—we counted 121 stalks in blossom on one plant, and an average of three flowers to the stem. The health and vigor of the plants were fully demonstrated by the hundreds of seed pods from flowers already overpast, and though still carrying so freely, there were buds innumerable yet to expand. The height of the plant was six to eight inches, and the spread generally two feet, while occasionally one would run to thirty inches and even more, while the individual blooms measured across the standard one and one-quarter inches.

The claim that Cupid seed had a low figure of germination has not been borne out by our experience and observation. Given the proper conditions, the Cupids are all right.

See Mr. Barron's Letter, page 9.



Electrotype, 50 cts.

A Single Plant, exactly engraved from a Photograph of

Dwarf Sweet Pea,—Burpee's PINK Cupid.

The illustration above has been accurately engraved from a photograph of a single plant, grown in ordinary field culture, lifted and set in a pot on a platform for the purpose of photographing on a level with the camera. Every plant in our fields in California, New York, and at FORDHOOK FARMS was *absolutely true*,—a perfect "*Blanche Ferry Cupid*." The flowers are always of full size, measuring from one and one-quarter to one and a half inches across the standard—covering a silver dollar.

As this plant is a fair sample we would state that it measured six to eight and one-half inches high by nineteen to twenty-four inches in diameter, spreading on the ground. We could give record of the number of flowers and buds, by actual count, on a single plant of **Burpee's PINK Cupid**, but will refer merely to the editorial from **AMERICAN GARDENING**, on page 8, in which MR. LEONARD BARRON says: "We counted 121 stalks in blossom on one plant and an average of three flowers to a stem."

Report from MR. ECKFORD.

WEM, SHROPSHIRE, ENGLAND,
September 13, 1897.

MESSRS. W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:—I am pleased to tell you that the "PINK CUPID" Sweet Pea you were good enough to send me for trial has been a great success. White Cupid has done much better than last year, but still not up to the Pink variety, which holds its bloom better and consequently gives a much better display. I don't think too much can be said in favour of Pink Cupid. At present it occupies the place of honour in dwarf Sweet Peas.

I am, gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

HENRY ECKFORD.

AMERICAN GARDENING.

A. T. DE LA MARE PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO.,
LTD., PROPRIETORS.

NEW YORK, September 9, 1897.

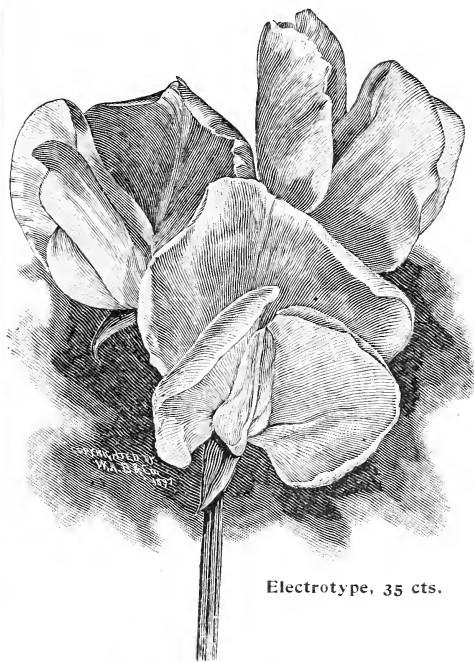
MESSRS. W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Gentlemen:—I have just returned from a trip to Jefferson County, New York, where one of the most beautiful sights to me was a bed of PINK CUPID. It was a mass of blossoms exhaling a delicious fragrance into the air; and that its past had been equally grand was evidenced by the seed pods, while the promise for the rest of the season lay in the multitude of buds yet to expand.

Truly as a flowering bedder Pink Cupid is a success.

Yours faithfully,

LEONARD BARRON,
Editor A. G.



Electrotype, 35 cts.

Burpee's PINK Cupid bears generally three and sometimes four flowers to a stem. The illustration above was accurately engraved from a photograph *exactly natural size*. The flowers are identical with the tall-growing *Blanche Ferry* and are *always fully equal in size*.

BURPEE'S Novelties in SWEET PEAS

Now First Offered to the Trade.

The eight New Sweet Peas, described upon this and the following two pages, were introduced at retail only, in sealed packets by us in 1898, and **are now offered to the trade for the first time.** All come absolutely true to the descriptions given, and have excited many favorable comments, both from "experts" and private planters. In our opinion this is **the best set** that has ever been introduced in any one year, while EARLIEST OF ALL will be of incalculable value, either for fall or spring planting in the open ground or for forcing under glass. MODESTY, ORIENTAL, and STELLA MORSE will also find a quick sale as cut flowers.

STELLA MORSE.

See Illustration, engraved from a Photograph.

The blossom opens with quite a suggestion of yellow—a most fascinating shade of deep cream,—which becomes a little lighter as the flower grows older. About the third day it is a delicate primrose with a faint rose-pink on the edge (perhaps one could call it a bluish-pink edging), which casts a



pleasing blush tint to a mass of the blooms, without destroying the *creamy-yellow* effect. It has the most perfect form, being of the largest grandiflora hooded type and grows on long stems, with three and four flowers to the stem.

It is a thrifty, vigorous grower and a profuse bloomer.

No one has seen this new Sweet Pea without being at once in love with it—its pleasing gracefulness and soft delicate coloring being unrivaled.

Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.

ORIENTAL.

This is the notable variety of that "*rich orange cast*" selected out of our *New American Seedlings* and developed until it comes absolutely true from seed. The long stems generally bear three flowers, all facing one way



The flowers are larger in size and much richer in coloring than the popular *Lady Penzance*. The large, erect standard is slightly pointed, openly recurved, heavily veined, and suffused with bright *orange-salmon*, fading to nearly white between the veins when opened for some time under the hot sun, but does not become bleached around the borders as do most others of this type of coloring. Keel stiffly erect; wings very much recurved and standing erect, nearly parallel with the standard, richly suffused with orange-salmon of rather a lighter shade than in the standards, and deepening to carmine-rose in the center.

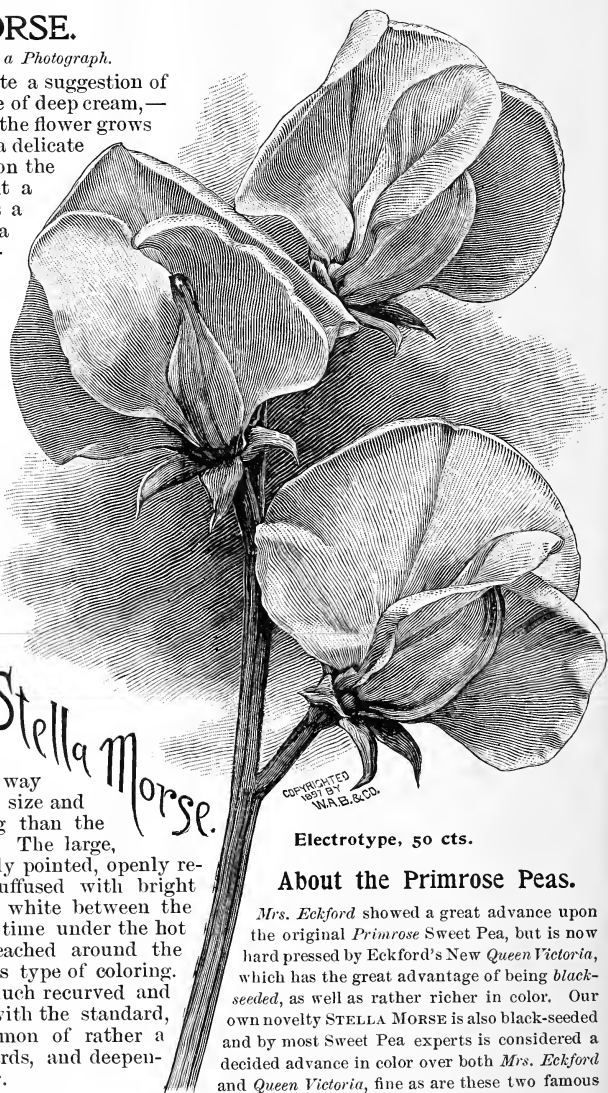
Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.

WAWONA.

This is quite a *new color*. It is a beautiful *heliotrope*, distinctly striped with white. The flowers, of large size and fine form, are borne most profusely upon long, heavy stems. The large, erect standard is pointed with edges slightly recurved; wings large, semi-erect, and well recurved about the keel.

A fitting companion to our famous *Aurora*.

Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.



Electrotype, 50 cts.

About the Primrose Peas.

Mrs. Eckford showed a great advance upon the original *Primrose* Sweet Pea, but is now hard pressed by Eckford's *New Queen Victoria*, which has the great advantage of being *black-seeded*, as well as rather richer in color. Our own novelty STELLA MORSE is also black-seeded and by most Sweet Pea experts is considered a decided advance in color over both Mrs. Eckford and *Queen Victoria*, fine as are these two famous varieties.

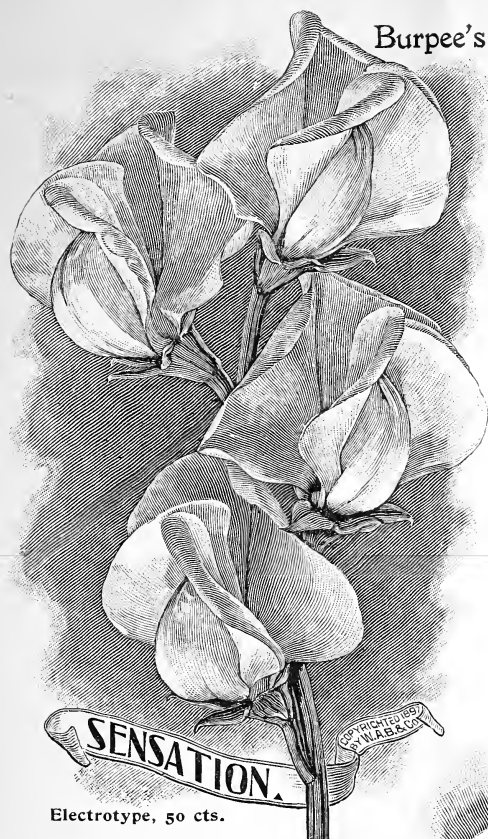


Burpee's New Sweet Pea, SENSATION.

This bears three and often four large flowers, all facing one way on the top of long stiff stems. While outside of California it does not always maintain its character of bearing uniformly four flowers to each stem, yet it is everywhere remarkable for its wonderful mass of bloom. The fine, large standard is well expanded, slightly pointed and recurved, of delicate silky texture suffused with a faint blush; the wings of heavier texture, broad, semi-erect, well recurved and more nearly white than the standard. Under the strong sunlight the fully expanded flowers have the appearance of pure paper-white, but by reflected light or under close examination the flesh tinge is readily discernible. It is unsurpassed in delicacy of coloring, and the vines continue to be *completely covered with flowers* a long time, even under the hottest sun. **Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.**

DOLLY VARDEN.

The standard is bright purple-magenta, toward the midrib shading lighter, running to almost white on the sides and penciled with heavy maroon at the base. It gives the general effect of a bluish-purple standard with white wings, a color which has long been sought. **Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.**



Electrotype, 50 cts.

LOTTIE HUTCHINS.

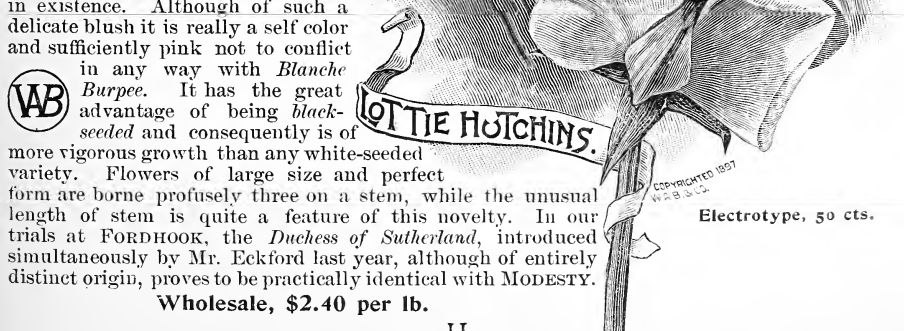
To those familiar with the popular *Ramona*, introduced by us several years ago, we can best describe **LOTTIE HUTCHINS** by saying that it is daintily flaked with pink in the same manner, but on a cream ground instead of white,—making a richer and even more lovely effect. The flowers are of well-expanded grandiflora type, large in size and finely formed, borne on heavy, substantial stems.

Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.

MODESTY.

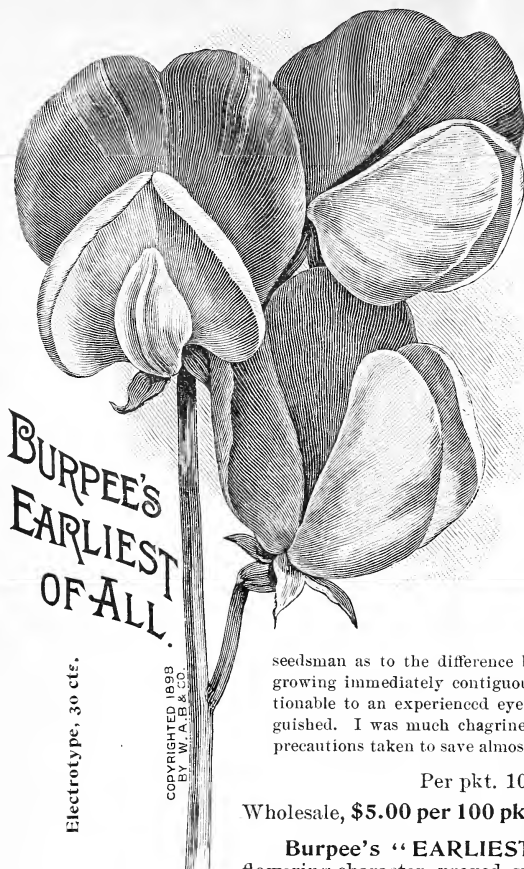
This is the most delicate pink in existence. Although of such a delicate blush it is really a self color and sufficiently pink not to conflict in any way with *Blanche Burpee*. It has the great advantage of being *black-seeded* and consequently is of more vigorous growth than any white-seeded variety. Flowers of large size and perfect form are borne profusely three on a stem, while the unusual length of stem is quite a feature of this novelty. In our trials at FORDHOOK, the *Duchess of Sutherland*, introduced simultaneously by Mr. Eckford last year, although of entirely distinct origin, proves to be practically identical with **MODESTY**.

Wholesale, \$2.40 per lb.



Electrotype, 50 cts.

New Sweet Pea,—Burpee's "EARLIEST OF ALL"



"Every florist will be eager to have this distinct new strain, when we state that it is identical with the *Extra Early Blanche Ferry*, except that it is more dwarf in growth and comes into full bloom at least ten days earlier." The prophecy just quoted from our remarks last year has been more than verified as the demand was extraordinary, and we have received most enthusiastic letters as to the unique value of EARLIEST OF ALL, both for forcing and open ground. The illustration was engraved from a photograph of a spray of flowers, exactly natural size. This most valuable new strain originated with MR. THOMAS GOULD, who wrote us, September 10, 1897:



"The new 'Earliest of All' were so closely selected that their habit was uniformly dwarf after slight roguing, as compared with parent plants, coming into general bloom fully two weeks before the *Extra Early Blanche Ferry* showed scattered bloom. The distinctiveness in early habit was so marked in all stages of development as to invite interrogations from every visiting

seedsman as to the difference between this selection and its parent stock, growing immediately contiguous. In fact, this characteristic was unquestionable to an experienced eye as far away as the bloom could be distinguished. I was much chagrined to receive such a small crop after all the precautions taken to save almost every seed."

Per pkt. 10 cts.; per ounce 40 cts.

Wholesale, \$5.00 per 100 pkts.; \$25.00 per 100 ounce-packages.

Burpee's "EARLIEST OF ALL," notwithstanding its free-flowering character, proved such a shy seeder last year that we were able to offer the seed only at retail, in sealed packets of twenty seeds each. To enable us to meet the demand that was sure to follow from florists and dealers this season, we sent stock seed for planting last winter to the following four well-known growers: C. C. MORSE & Co. and WALDO ROHNERT, of California, and W. A. DENISON and ROGERS BROTHERS, of Jefferson County, New York. In inspecting these contract crops the past spring and summer, as well as on our own grounds at FORDHOOK, we found that "**Earliest of All**" came uniformly earlier, more even in growth, and **always ten days to two weeks earlier in bloom than the Extra Early Blanche Ferry.** In Jefferson County, N. Y., we were particularly well pleased with the second crop of bloom we found on the vines during a visit the latter part of August. The blooms at this time were extremely large, the standard measuring one and one-half inches across, and all well expanded. It was noticeable that the white of the wings was clearer than in any other strain of Blanche Ferry. The letter published below from one of these growers who "knows Sweet Peas" will suffice to show that we are not too enthusiastic in praising this remarkable new strain.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

GILROY, CAL., June 22, 1898.

GENTLEMEN:—Your "Earliest of All" Sweet Pea is really more than what you claim for it. I planted some on the 1st day of April, and on the 3d of June it was showing bloom. The climate of California is *slow growing*, as the nights are always cool. I have no doubt but what faster time could be made in the East. It not only shows the first bloom earlier than other strains of Extra Early Blanche Ferry, but it comes into full bloom correspondingly earlier.

In regard to quality of stock I may add that no rogue has yet appeared in one acre of this variety. This in itself would make it especially valuable to florists, were it not for its extreme earliness, and also reflects great credit on the originator. I regard "Earliest of All" as the "*record breaker*" for early flowering, and you have my congratulations for introducing a novelty of great merit.

Yours truly, WALDO ROHNERT.

ECKFORD'S NEW WHITE SWEET PEA, "SADIE BURPEE."

Both Black-Seeded and White-Seeded.

First-Class Award of Merit, ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1898.

First-Class Award of Merit, HANLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1898.

First-Class Award of Merit, LEICESTER HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1897.

First-Class Award of Merit, CARDIFF HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, 1897.

The Electrotpe mentioned by Mr. Eckford in his letter, published on page 2, and for which we have cabled, will arrive soon, and will be supplied, for catalogue use, at the nominal price of **35 cents.**

In describing this grand, new Sweet Pea it is difficult to convey a just idea of the beauty which it possesses. The extreme daintiness of its shape and pure pearly-whiteness is altogether beyond description. It is absolutely the prettiest shaped flower yet produced. The individual flowers are of splendid substance; the plant is a strong grower, free flowering, and produces its flowers on long, stout stems. The variety is of the fashionable hooded form, and most suitable for buttonhole, bouquet, or other decorative work. Judges have been unanimous in their praise of "SADIE BURPEE," and notwithstanding the beautiful appearance of *Blanche Burpee*, the finest white now in commerce, the FIRST-CLASS AWARD OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY pronounces this THE WHITE SWEET PEA "PAR EXCELLENCE."

"Plant thinly in good ground, cut freely, feed liberally with liquid manure right through the growing season, and I have no hesitation in predicting a four months' continuous bloom from the one sowing."—HENRY ECKFORD.

Sold only in Eckford's original sealed packets.

Each packet contains two smaller packets holding respectively *six black seeds* and *six white seeds*,—in all **twelve seeds.**

Per packet 25 cts.; 5 packets for \$1.00. Wholesale, **\$12.50 per 100 packets.**

A lower price will be quoted by the **thousand packets.**

"**SADIE BURPEE**" is sure to become immensely popular, as Sweet Pea amateurs and florists have waited expectantly for years for a really first-class giant-flowered *black-seeded* White Sweet Pea. The only black-seeded white now in commerce is *Mrs. Sankey*, which, as all know, is of poor form and small size. Growers of cut flowers can raise now the finest White Sweet Peas *as easily and surely* as of any other hardy black-seeded variety. Even if the dainty form and splendid substance of the flowers were in no way superior to Eckford's famous *Blanche Burpee*, the one fact that "SADIE BURPEE" is a hardy *black-seeded* as well as *white-seeded* variety would alone make its introduction of incalculable value to all lovers of Sweet Peas.

In this connection we think it fitting to republish the following:

BLANCHE BURPEE SWEET PEA.

In connection with the author's descriptions of all known varieties, we would explain about the only Sweet Pea that bears our name. In the summer of 1892 Mr. HENRY ECKFORD wrote us that he had a new giant-flowered white Sweet Pea, which he considered "*by far the finest of all Sweet Peas*," and asked our permission to name it BLANCHE BURPEE. As Mr. Eckford had never before given an American name to any of his varieties, we wrote him that we appreciated the compliment and hoped the new creation would do us both credit. In 1895 the variety was introduced, and has since become widely known as the only large, expanded, pure white, of the most refined form. On the front cover we give an illustration of this now world-famous Sweet Pea, engraved from a photograph taken at FORDHOOK FARM. On the next page we print Mr. Eckford's illustration, together with his description, list of awards, and testimonials from his SELECT LIST OF SWEET PEAS. The description given on page 98 of BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL for 1897 was taken from the previous edition of Eckford's List.—PUBLISHERS' NOTE on page 59 of Rev. W. T. Hutchins' book entitled SWEET PEAS UP-TO-DATE, published by us in the winter of 1897-98.

Eckford's Advance Set of NOVELTIES in Sweet Peas.

"The varieties described briefly below comprise the set which Mr. Eckford will send out at retail this year. Although the price is too high for general sale, yet many specialists in Sweet Peas will be glad to obtain these varieties in advance. When we had the pleasure of visiting Mr. Eckford at his home in Wem, England, last July, he kindly consented to our offering his original seed the first year in America. *Each variety is 25 cts. per packet of ten seeds, or any five packets for \$1.00,—according to our usual discount as stated on second page cover.*"

The above is quoted *verbatim* from page 85 of BURPEE'S FARM ANNUAL FOR 1898. From this original seed obtained from Mr. Eckford we grew a limited quantity, intending to use same *exclusively* for our retail trade in 1899. To-day (Sept. 8, 1898), however, comes the request, published on page 2, that we participate with Mr. Eckford in the introduction of his new giant white "SADIE BURPEE." Consequently we think it only fair that we should give our friends in the trade, who wish to keep UP TO DATE IN SWEET PEAS, an opportunity also to secure these other **ECKFORD NOVELTIES** at a **very moderate price**. Below we print Mr. Eckford's own descriptions.

PRINCE OF WALES. Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1897. A bright rose-self of intense color and fine bold form, also of grand substance, bearing three and frequently four flowers well placed on long stout stems; a most desirable addition, being extremely free flowering and quite unique in color; has received much admiration during the past summer.

Wholesale, 35 cts. per oz.; \$1.25 per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$5.00 per lb.

LADY MARY CURRIE. Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1897. First-class Certificates at Trentham, Leicester, Wolverhampton, and Edinburgh, 1897. A deep orange-pink, delicately shaded rosy-lilac, a most charming flower of exquisite brilliancy; it has been much admired wherever shown and is likely to become one of the greatest favorites.

Wholesale, 30 cts. per oz.; \$1.20 per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$4.75 per lb.

CHANCELLOR. First-class Certificates, Scottish Horticultural Association, Edinburgh, Wolverhampton, and Trentham, 1897. Standards bright orange, wings bright orange-pink just a shade lighter than the standards; it is really a self-colored flower of intense glowing color, grand form, good substance, large size, usually three-flowered, well placed on long stout stems.

Wholesale, 30 cts. per oz.; \$1.20 per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$4.75 per lb.

COLONIST. First-class Certificates, Wolverhampton and Leicester, 1897. This is a lovely flower of fine form and substance, usually three-flowered, nicely arranged on long stout stems; the growth is extremely vigorous, very free flowering, the rows being literally covered with bloom of the most beautiful soft lilac, overlaid with the brightest rose.

Wholesale, 30 cts. per oz.; \$1.20 per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$4.75 per lb.

DUCHESS OF SUTHERLAND. A pearl-white, delicately suffused with light pink, bright and charming, of fine form and good substance; the flowers being well placed on the stem make it a decided and desirable acquisition.

Wholesale, 65 cts. per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$2.40 per lb.

DUKE OF SUTHERLAND. First-class Certificate, Edinburgh, 1897. Deep claret with a deeper flush of maroon on the back of the standard; the wings are of a bright indigo-blue throughout. With age the whole flower becomes of the same rich and bright indigo-blue as the wings; a very effective color, and quite distinct.

Wholesale, 25 cts. per oz.; 90 cts. per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$3.50 per lb.

BLACK KNIGHT. This is one of the finest flowers, the color being absolutely a deep maroon self, clear and shining, the standard bearing a bright metallic polish, flowers well expanded, also well placed on the long stout stem; the plants are of vigorous growth and very free flowering.

Wholesale, 30 cts. per oz.; \$1.20 per $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.; \$4.75 per lb.

EARLY ORDERS SOLICITED.

We will reserve, of course, sufficient seed of each of the above for our retail trade. **We are not bound** to any large quantities until the order is accepted in writing. All orders will be acknowledged promptly upon receipt, when positive information will be given as to whether we can supply the full quantity ordered. The seed will be ready to ship in November. MESSRS. HURST & SON, of London, are authorized to accept *early orders* at prices named for our best *American-grown Seed* of these Eckford Novelties.

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.

Eckford's Set of New SWEET PEAS.

The varieties described on this page were offered by HENRY ECKFORD to the trade for the first time last winter. Below we give Mr. Eckford's descriptions, and take pleasure in offering **The Best American Grown Seed** from our carefully rogued crops at a moderate price.

COUNTESS OF POWIS. For exquisite beauty and delicate finish this lovely variety is unequaled; the color being a glowing orange suffused with light purple, with a beautiful satin polish—novel in the extreme. In size and color this flower is really unique. Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1896. First-class Certificate, Dundee, 1896. First-class Certificate, Edinburgh, 1896. Wholesale, **\$1.25 per lb.**

LADY NINA BALFOUR. Is one of the most exquisite of recent introductions, being exceedingly lovely. In color it is the most delicate mauve imaginable, beautifully shaded with a charming dove-gray, which gives a most captivating charm to the whole flower. *Lady Nina Balfour* has been a great favorite wherever exhibited, and is bound to become very popular. First-class Certificate, Edinburgh, 1896. Wholesale, **\$4.50 per lb.**

QUEEN VICTORIA. This is an exquisitely lovely flower, large, finely expanded, very handsome. Color, soft yellow subtly overlaid with faint purple, imparting a luster most desirable but difficult to describe. A great acquisition. *Queen Victoria* is a beautiful pale-yellow form, with erect standards and bold flowers.—*Gardener's Magazine*. Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1896. First-class Certificate, Wolverhampton, 1896. Wholesale, **\$1.25 per lb.**

PRINCE EDWARD OF YORK. Is one of the largest of the new varieties, having finely expanded standards of a charming shade of scarlet, and large wings of the deepest rose color; one of the most effective Sweet Peas for any purpose. The *Gardener's Magazine* of July 18, 1896, says: *Prince Edward of York* has lovely erect scarlet standards with deep rose-colored wings; very attractive and handsome. Certificate of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1896. First-class Certificate, Birmingham, 1896. Wholesale, **\$1.25 per lb.**

SALOPIAN. Is a superbly beautiful variety. Color, deep crimson tinged with mulberry-red, suffused with rich orange-scarlet; flowers large, finely formed, and handsome; without doubt one of the very finest and most desirable of late introductions. Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, July 10, 1896. First-class Certificates, Wolverhampton, Dundee, Birmingham, and Edinburgh. Wholesale, **\$1.50 per lb.**

SHAHZADA. A decided advance in the direction of dark-colored Sweet Peas. As regards size, form, and floriferousness, it is quite up to the highest standard. The color, rich dark maroon with a shade of purple, is most distinct and attractive. Wholesale, **\$1.25 per lb.**

TRIUMPH. Is a flower of enormous size—a veritable giant among Sweet Peas—and, in addition, by its attractive beauty, has become a great favorite with every one who has seen it during the season. The standard is bold and well expanded, of the most exquisite bright orange-pink; the wings white, slightly flushed with delicate purple; a perfect flower. Wholesale, **\$1.25 per lb.**

SOME NOTES ON A TRIP NORTH.

At Mr. Burpee's beautiful farm, "Fordhook," near Doylestown, in Bucks Co., Pa., I found that the place is mainly used for testing the character of the various stocks of seeds before offering them for sale. Mr. B. makes it imperative that everything must be tested practically in field culture before selling it. This sort of a test is worth far more to the grower than a thousand laboratory sprouting experiments, such as the Department at Washington proposes to make. The mere percentage of any seed that will sprout is of far less importance than the quality of what is grown, and the quality can only be determined by an actual test under the same conditions that the purchaser of the seeds would be placed in. Sweet peas were in their glory when I was at Fordhook, and the wonderful array of trial plots showed plainly the superiority of the stocks that are being produced in California. Sweet peas from French stocks invariably showed a great mixture, and in one place I was shown some plots that were grown from the seed sent out from the Department at Washington. Their great inferiority to the others was so manifest that they seemed almost worthless by comparison. What a terrible waste of public money is this distribution. Bought at prices at which no first-class seed stocks can be had, it is no wonder that the Government seeds are inferior, even when they show the standard percentage of germination. The Government sweet peas were another illustration of the worthlessness of laboratory seed testing.—*From an article by PROF. W. F. MASSEY, of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station, in THE SOUTHERN PLANTER, Richmond, Virginia, August, 1898.*

Our Sweet Peas of 1897 Introduction.

The Six Superb New Sweet Peas, described upon this and the following page, were first introduced in 1897, when the seed was *sold only in sealed packets*. In our travels throughout America and Europe we found that these **Introductions of 1897** have given general satisfaction, while this season **AURORA** received the highest endorsement possible,—**an Award of Merit** from **The Royal Horticultural Society** of London.

BRILLIANT and **MAID OF HONOR** have been also greatly admired and figured prominently in the horticultural press of Europe and America, while it is the almost unanimous opinion of experts everywhere that our **NEW COUNTESS** will supersede all other lavender Sweet Peas.

“AURORA.”

The flowers are of fine substance, full expanded form (as shown in the illustration), and are *truly gigantic in size*. The immense flowers are borne three and four on a stem; the stems are extra long and strong. The vines are vigorous in growth and bloom most profusely. The color effect is gorgeous; both standard and wings are flaked and striped on a white ground, with *bright orange-salmon*. For bunching alone, or to brighten a bouquet of assorted colors, nothing could be more effective.

Wholesale, 55 cts. per lb.

W. Atlee Burpee & Co's new varieties show up very well. Aurora is one of the most beautiful stripes. Maid of Honor is an improvement on Butterfly and ought to replace this variety, as it is whiter in color and does not notch. Golden Gate has peculiar-shaped wings, while the color is a shaded mauve. Creole does not come true to name, but the coloring is very good. Brilliant is a very fine scarlet and does not blacken as do Eckford's scarlets. California growers have had no trouble in germinating Cupid this year. The fields present a view of snow. It is remarkable how long this little imp keeps up its bright appearance. All the tall varieties are nearly out of bloom, but Cupid goes merrily on unmindful whether it has any companions.—**CALIFORNIA SEEDS IN THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, July 1, 1897.**

BURPEE'S SCARLET SWEET PEA,—“BRILLIANT.”

Electrotype,
25 cts.

This supplies the need for a bright Scarlet Sweet Pea of improved form. The flowers are of good substance; medium to large in size; the broad standard is inclined to hood, while the wings are well spread. The color is of a rich, bright *crimson-scarlet*. The wings nearly equal the standard in intense richness of color. The flowers are borne three on a stem. A most important point is in the fact that the flowers retain their full brilliancy of color under the hottest sun,—*never becoming marbled or burned*.

Wholesale, 90 cts. per lb.

Among the newer kinds probably the most attractive is **BRILLIANT** (Burpee), the luster of which the hot summer sun could not dim. The color, a rich, bright crimson-scarlet, remained unchanged, while that of Ignea, Firefly, and the more recent Salopian (Eckford), was very much affected. Present appearances would tend to justify the claim that Brilliant is “the best scarlet sweet pea to date.”

NEW COUNTESS (Burpee) comes absolutely true; it is an improvement on the Countess of Radnor, being without that shade of reddish mauve seen in, and which tends to detract from, the effectiveness of the latter. The flowers are very large, and pure light lavender throughout.—**From THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, July 24, 1897.**

BURPEE'S NEW COUNTESS

The *Countess of Radnor* is a favorite Sweet Pea on account of its delicate lavender-mauve color and fine form. Its one fault, however, is that the standard shows a shade of reddish-mauve,—spoiling the otherwise light lavender effect. This new strain, which has been developed from a single plant selected some years ago, now comes almost absolutely true from seed. The flowers are of the largest size and are a pure light lavender throughout,—both on standard and wings. Nothing could be more beautiful than a bouquet of these dainty light flowers.

Wholesale, 65 cts. per lb.

Sweet Pea,—CREOLE.

A chance seedling from *Lemon Queen*, the flowers are of the same open, expanded form. Of good substance and large size, the vines average three flowers on a stem. The standard is light pinkish-lavender, while the wings are a pure lavender. The flowers are of a most refined, delicate beauty, and yet produced profusely.

Wholesale, 60 cts. per lb.

Sweet Pea, "MAID OF HONOR."

This can be described as an *Improved Light Butterfly*. It has been developed from one plant selected three years ago, and is a decided improvement both in size, form, and color. The coloring is very beautiful,—lighter than the original *Butterfly*. It is light blue on a white ground, shaded and edged. The flowers, borne three on a stem, are of the finest hooded form, entirely free from the notches so conspicuous in the original *Butterfly*, while in size and substance they are fully equal to *Lottie Eckford*.

Wholesale, 60 cts. per lb.

Sweet Pea,—GOLDEN GATE.

Its peculiar form, as shown in the illustration from a photograph, is unlike any other Sweet Pea. The novel feature is seen in the long, pointed wings, which stand upright (like the ears of a rabbit), nearly parallel with the standard. The wings never overlap or meet together, as in all other Sweet Peas. The upright form, parallel with each other, suggested the name,—**Golden Gate**.

The numerous strong stems bear three and four flowers each. The standard is soft pinkish-mauve; wings a lighter mauve and lavender.

Wholesale, 60 cts. per lb.

Burpee's American Seedlings.

By crossing and recrossing the finest new Sweet Peas of the improved large-flowering type there occurred the most remarkable "break," which we offer in mixture as BURPEE'S NEW AMERICAN SEEDLINGS. In gathering a bouquet of these beautiful new Seedlings we counted twenty-four distinct shades and colors.

Among the shades and colors which are distributed quite evenly, is one of an almost true orange, another of lemon blush, while others are of a pure cream, lemon, lemon tinted with blush, orange-red, salmon-buff, also salmon-buff with pink edge, blue-edged, light lavender, and all shades of pink from very light (nearly white) to the richest deep-rose color.

All the flowers are of fine expanded form, very largest size and of wonderful substance. This strain is remarkable also for its free-flowering character; the grand flowers are borne in profusion, three and four on a stem.

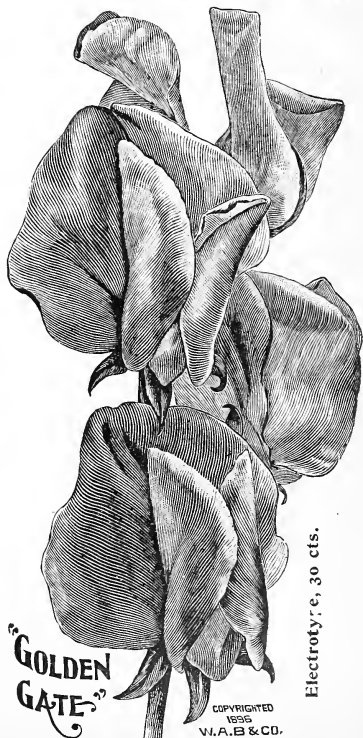
Wholesale, 75 cts. per lb.



Electrotype, 25 cts.



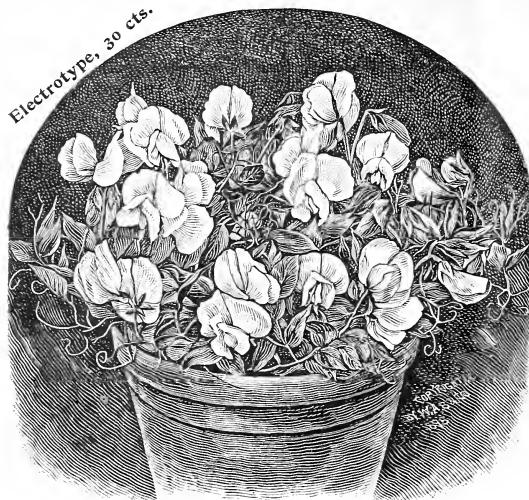
Electrotype, 25 cts.



Electrotype, 30 cts.

The First Dwarf Sweet Pea,—CUPID

Electrotype, 30 cts.



The engraving reduced in size is an exact reproduction of an illustration in THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE, London, June 29, 1895, of one of the pot plants exhibited at the Royal Horticultural Society, June 25, 1895, where by unanimous vote we received an Award of Merit for CUPID,—the highest endorsement possible.



WHITE CUPID flowers pure white, height six inches, habit spreading, too well-known to need much description. The flowers are not so liable to fall as when first introduced; excellent for bedding, a very charming companion for the Pink Cupid, and might be used in conjunction with very excellent results.—From HENRY ECKFORD'S SELECT LIST OF SWEET PEAS FOR 1898.

Wholesale, 65 cts. per lb.

NEW PINK CUPID SWEET PEA.

Too much cannot be said in favor of this unique novelty. By the courtesy of the introducers, MESSRS. W. ATLEE BURPEE & Co. (who were good enough to send me a few seeds for trial), I was enabled to test the merits of the Pink Cupid in my trial grounds during the past summer, and can **very strongly recommend it**—

FOR MASSING IN BEDS;

FOR GROWING AS SINGLE SPECIMENS in mixed borders, and also

FOR POT CULTURE.

FOR MARGINAL LINES;

THE PINK CUPID is also specially recommended because of its free-flowering habit. The flowers, being borne on slightly longer stems than those of the White Cupid, are thrown well above the foliage, which is almost entirely concealed by the bright mass of bloom. The plant itself is of exactly the same spreading habit as the White Cupid, and does in no instance exceed six inches in height; if planted six to nine inches apart, will form a dense, beautiful, and fragrant carpet. The Pink Cupid flowers early and continues through the season, with bright rose-pink standards and pure white wings.—From HENRY ECKFORD'S SELECT LIST OF SWEET PEAS FOR 1898, from which we reprint also the following notice of BLANCHE BURPEE.

Eckford's Giant White, BLANCHE BURPEE.

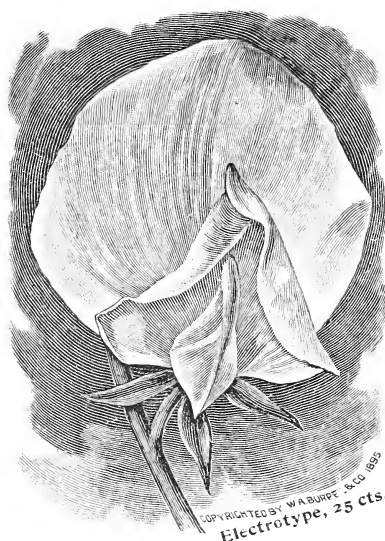
Easily Leads all Other Whites.

Award of Merit, Royal Horticultural Society, 1895.
First-class Certificate, Birmingham, August 4, 1894.

The following apt description is taken from the GARDENING WORLD of August 7, 1897:

BLANCHE BURPEE. This is without doubt the finest white variety in cultivation. The habit is strong and vigorous, the seed should therefore be sown rather thinly. The flowers themselves are of giant size and are very freely produced. By keeping them cut each day the plants may be kept in bloom for a surprisingly long time. The standard or large upper petal of the flower has an entire margin, the notch which is to be seen in *Emily Henderson* being absent. If there is only room for one white variety *Blanche Burpee* undoubtedly deserves the choice.

Wholesale, 50 cts. per lb. 10 lbs. or more at 45 cts. per lb.



Impartial Notes on our Varieties.

Sweet Pea Novelties of 1898.

Duchess of Sutherland, a pearl-white, has the misfortune of being so near like Modesty of the Burpee set that it can hold no place. . . . The American strain of Radnor, called New Countess, is very fine in color, and must hold the place as a delicate lavender. Countess of Powis is crowded out by Burpee's Oriental.

Turning to the American novelties our enthusiasm is kept alive; certainly not by all that are being offered on this side of the water, but by the best of them.

Probably in some localities the best Burpee novelty this year is Stella Morse, a beautiful light buff-cream. But in this section the best one is Lottie Hutchins. It at once attracts admiration. I am happily disappointed in it. Its yellowish-cream ground sets off the soft rose stripes and flakes very prettily. Oriental is a splendid orange-salmon and has only Chancellor to compete with. Modesty bouquets beautifully, and there is no question about its deserving a place. As to Sensation, it is unfortunate just now to have so many sorts just bordering on white crowded upon us. Duchess of Sutherland, Sensation, and Countess of Aberdeen are not needed if we retain Modesty.

Pink Cupid is a decided improvement on the white. The Burpee's Earliest of All strain of Blanche Ferry vindicates its name.

The new orange of Burpee's called Gorgeous is grand. Pink Friar is also very pretty. I see no advance made in yellow except as the buff-cream of the Stella Morse gives us richer effect.—REV. W. T. HUTCHINS in THE AMERICAN FLORIST, July 23, 1898.

Sweet Peas in 1898.

NOVELTIES INTRODUCED.

Burpee's 1898 Set.

SENSATION.—This is a sweet pea introduced on a basis of a physical characteristic which is a mistake. It would bear introduction on its coloring, as it is a beauty, and of fine type and substance. It is guaranteed to come invariably in "fours," i. e., four blooms to a stem, whereas it has come about 30 per cent. "fours" in New England, New York State, and with me, about the same percentage as Gray Friar. It is a mistake to guarantee a characteristic that depends so largely on soil and culture as the production of "fours."

Stella Morse is a good pea, being similar to the one form of Queen Victoria from Eckford last year, but so far it has produced more of the pink than the yellow. It is very floriferous and has typical stems. It is here to stay.

Wawona is a dark English-Violet pea of pleasing shade in the lighter type in which it comes—not being thoroughly rogued—the darker type being too dull. Will make a good variety when well selected.

Modesty, similar to Duchess of Sutherland, but being more hooded, has somewhat the form of Brilliant.

ORIENTAL.—This was very much admired as one of the "American Seedlings" last year, and is far ahead of Chancellor and Lady Mary Currie in shading and general appearance, and is the best orange-salmon of the year. It has been much admired at all the shows this year.

LOTTIE HUTCHINS.—This is the gem of Burpee's 1898 set, and is perfect, having been well selected and thoroughly rogued. It is a soft rose, striped on lemon-cream, marked similarly to Ramona, but it is a better pea. Every specialist will welcome this.

Earliest of All, is the Extra Early Blanche Ferry, selected to bloom at a height of from six to eighteen inches. With me it bloomed at the former and at Cohocton, N. Y., at the latter height. It is the earliest of all.

Burpee's Advance Work.

GORGEOUS FLAMING METEOR.—When this comes out it is likely to be called the finest thing of the year. It is the only sweet pea that has a solid orange standard, all others having but a trace of it; but here it is in all its fullness. I consider it the only true orange in a sweet pea. It is a jewel.

STRIPED MIXTURE.—A collection of all old and new type striped sweet peas up to 1897, and makes a brilliant display on the trellis.—SAM. A. HAMILTON in THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, August 13, 1898.

Sweet Pea Notes.

The following varieties were sent to us by W. Atlee Burpee, of Philadelphia, for trial:

SENSATION.—The vines are about 2½ feet high, thick and thrifty. The flowers are considerably larger than those of Earliest of All, and somewhat larger than those of Gorgeous New Prize. We have already described the Earliest of All as the earliest to bloom in our collection, both last season and this, and as having flowers almost precisely the same in form and color as those of Pink Cupid. The buds of Sensation are straw colored. The vexillum is a delicate flesh-rose, and the wings are often faintly pink above. This is an unusually beautiful variety, the flowers being softly and delicately colored as if by light reflected upon white flowers.

LOTTIE HUTCHINS.—Vines about two feet, not as dense or thrifty as those of Sensation. The flowers are of a pale straw color, and the banner and wings are faintly and unevenly marked with stripes and splashes of rose.

MODESTY.—The flowers are nearly as large as those of Sensation, being of a faint flesh color throughout—described by the introducer as "the most delicate pink in existence." Of late years, sweet peas have been wonderfully improved. They come in as roses go out, and there is no other annual fully to take their place from late June until frost, for cut flowers.—From THE RURAL NEW YORKER, New York, August 6, 1898.

The Springfield Sweet Pea Show.

Of the seven of the new Eckford set are Prince of Wales, a bright rose showing advance merit over Her Majesty; Lady Mary Currie and Chancellor, both splendid developments of the orange-salmon order, the latter producing a percentage of blossoms identical with the Currie. The latter is worthy of the best certificate that can be given. Colonist, which I said in my last article was nearly like Prince of Wales, does decidedly differ and is soft lilac overlaid with bright rose. Duchess of Sutherland is a pearl-white very softly suffused with light pink, but it seems to be identical with Burpee's Modesty and Duke of Sutherland, dark claret-maroon with indigo wings; makes hardly as good a showing as the old Mouchard and, like Shahzada, it is disappointing. Knight would be taken for high-grade Stanley.

For the best white, fifty stems, first was taken by H. H. Fisk, on Blanche Burpee; second best white, Emily Henderson, was awarded to D. W. Brainerd. For best cream, Lottie Hutchins, first was awarded to W. J. Eldred. . . . Best variegated, Aurora, H. H. Fisk; second, also Aurora, to D. W. Brainerd. . . . Best variety not catalogued before 1898, Stella Morse; award to W. J. Eldred. . . . Best pots of Pink Cupid, C. M. Hartzell. Best twenty-five stems of Sensation, W. J. Eldred, first; F. A. Blake, second. Best twenty-five stems Modesty, F. A. Blake, first; W. J. Eldred, second. Best twenty-five stems Oriental, F. A. Blake, first; Mrs. H. M. Olin, second. Best twenty-five stems Lottie Hutchins, F. A. Blake, first; D. W. Brainerd, second. Best twenty-five stems Stella Morse, F. A. Blake, first; W. J. Eldred, second. . . . The very cream of the variegated sorts now stand in this order with me: Cream with rosy flakings, Lottie Hutchins; orange-pink stripes, Aurora; rose striped, Mrs. Chamberlain; white with soft pink flakings, Ramona; dark striped, Senator; blue striped, Wawona. Both Gray and Pink Friar are excellent.—From report by REV. W. T. HUTCHINS in THE AMERICAN FLORIST, August 6, 1898.

Omaha's Great Exposition.

W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia's energetic seedmen, have just come into the hall and show a grand assortment of their choicest sweet peas grown especially for the Exposition at Waterloo, Neb., by J. C. Robinson. They have fifty-two varieties on view. B. F. Bell is in charge and renews the bouquets every other day.—From THE AMERICAN FLORIST, Chicago, July 23, 1898.

The Omaha Convention.

W. Atlee Burpee & Co. have a very handsome exhibit this week; in fact, the best they have yet displayed. They now stage 56 varieties of sweet peas, including all the popular and many of the new varieties. Mr. Bell, the manager of the exhibit, has also on his table the new canna "Gloriosa," and several samples of the Burbank rose. A special effort at greater display will be made next week by this house, in honor of the Florists' Convention.—From THE FLORISTS' EXCHANGE, New York, August 13, 1898.

On the Grand Painting described below there are, of course, no numbers nor any advertising.



This illustration is photographed from the painting for the KEY, which is sent with every copy.

Copyrighted, 1896, by
W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO.
All Rights Reserved.

A Beautiful Painting of Sweet Peas.

A Superb Work of Art,—Size 13 x 16½ inches, in 14 Colors.

By the famous French Artist, PAUL DE LONGPRE.

The great artist visited FORDHOOK during midsummer, when the large area of Sweet Peas gave rare beauty to our Farm. Amid these charming scenes, glowing with life and color, the famous painter of nature caught the most elusive charms of leaf and flower. This matchless specimen of the highest art has been reproduced in fourteen colors, making a picture that for chaste elegance it would be impossible to overpraise. So faithful has been the work of the lithographer that even a trained critic could scarcely detect the difference from the original, which **cost \$250.00**. It is indeed a rare transcript from nature,—a dream in colors.

In order that all may secure a copy of this dainty work of art we will sell it (to our customers) at **10 cents per copy**, mailed in a pasteboard tube ; regular price 20 cents.

We will supply these paintings at the rate of **6 cents each** ;

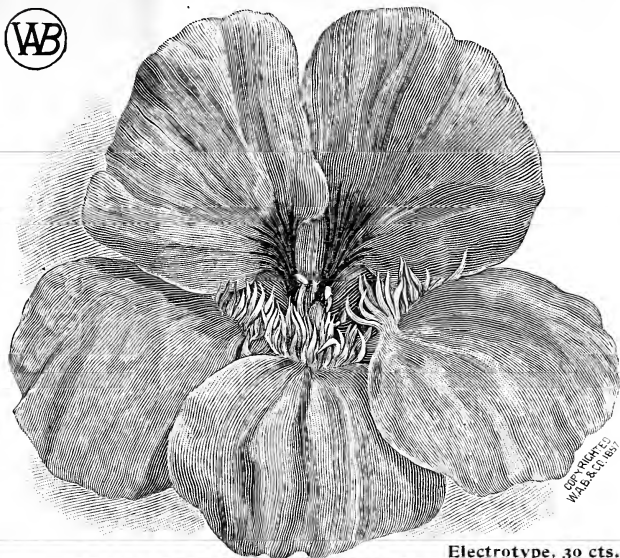
100 or more at **\$5.00 per 100**,—shipped flat,

WHOLESALE, To the Trade.

Beautiful New GIANT-FLOWERED Nasturtium. "SUNLIGHT"



This beautiful new Nasturtium has handsome light-green foliage lit up by myriads of clear, rich golden-yellow flowers, borne so profusely as to almost conceal the foliage. The petals are large and round, measuring more than 1½ inches across, and are daintily crinkled, which gives a very pretty effect. The two upper petals have a few delicate brown lines at their base, and the three lower ones are more distinctly bearded or fringed at the throat than is usual. The flowers measure nearly three inches across. It is a splendid climber, and its glowing color makes it wonderfully effective.



Electrotype, 30 cts.

Wholesale, \$2.50 per lb.

BURPEE'S "SUNLIGHT" NASTURTIIUM.—*Natural-size flower.*

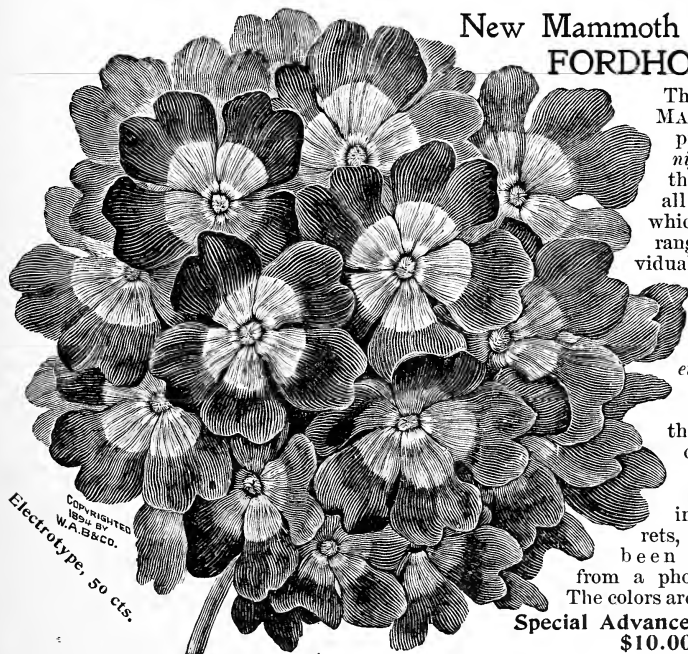
LILIPUT NASTURTIIUMS. A most charming and distinct new class. The plants are of smaller size than the well-known *Tom Thumb Nasturtiums*, while the flowers and round leaves are also smaller. The flowers, borne in large clusters on the top of each bush, are of perfect form, having the five petals all alike, and embrace beautiful new colors. Wholesale, \$1.50 per lb.

Climbing Nasturtiums,—HYBRIDS OF MADAME GUNTER.

We have harvested this season also more of this seed (best home-grown, of our own stock) than we require for our own trade, and hence offer on early orders at the special price of \$1.00 per lb.; ten pounds at 90 cts. per lb.

§2—We have also a fine stock of our own growing of the beautiful new German Pansy, FAIRY QUEEN, which we offer at \$5.00 per oz.

New Mammoth Verbena, FORDHOOK FAMOUS.



This is a strain of TRULY MAMMOTH VERBENA that produces *uniformly magnificent trusses*, of which the individual flowers are all of *unusual size* and which also embraces a wide range of colors. The individual blossoms are frequently larger than a silver quarter, —in fact, many are scarcely covered by a silver half-dollar.



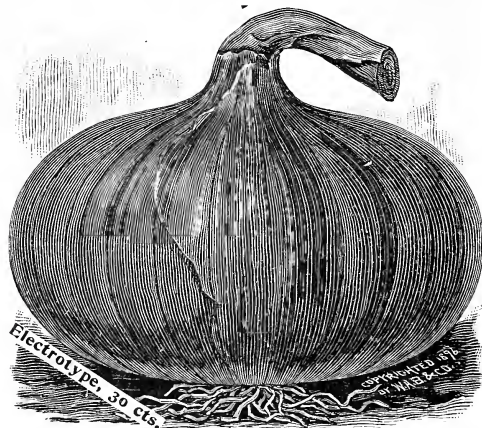
Take a silver quarter and try to cover any of the single flowers of the corymb illustrated herewith, and you will realize how magnificent in size are the single florets, as the illustration has been reproduced accurately from a photograph, natural size. The colors are varied,—all desirable.

Special Advance Wholesale Price,
\$10.00 per lb.

Long-Keeping AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION.

The Most Valuable Variety Introduced in a Generation.

THE AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION is of medium size, wonderfully hard and solid, and most attractive for market, both as to form and appearance. The illustration was engraved from a photograph, while the painting on last year's cover was made from nature, but failed adequately to show the handsome appearance of these beautiful onions. They are **extremely early** in ripening, and *never make any stiff-necks or scallions*. Every seed seems to produce a good-sized onion, and the bulb begins to form very quickly, — when the plant is not over three inches high. Planted with the *Red Wethersfield*, it proved to be *nearly four weeks earlier* and ripened off more uniformly. It has the reputation of keeping indefinitely, and we think from its firmness and hardness that it **will keep in good condition longer than any other Onion known**. The color of the skin is a clear amber-brown. So widely contrasted from any other Onion is this color that it will be noticed on market, and when once bought, purchasers will be most likely to return and call again for "those beautiful brown onions."



AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION.

Best American-Grown Seed, Wholesale at \$1.20 per lb.

A Sample Letter. We have received the strongest testimony from different sections as to the great value for market of **THE AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION**. It has been tested so generally, that although we have space for but one sample report, we are sure of a large demand again this season from the thousands who tried it on our recommendation. Unlike other foreign varieties, this is **the best keeper of all onions**, and being **extra early** it is a **sure cropper** even in the far North.

MR. HERMAN BLUEHER, Albuquerque, N. M., September 8, 1897, writes: "Yours of September 1st quoting onion seeds came duly to hand, price being satisfactory. Please send by mail four pounds of **AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION** seed and keep in reserve for me twelve pounds of the same **AUSTRALIAN BROWN ONION SEED** that I will want from you to be shipped with other seeds that I will order from you next winter for spring. Please let me know if I can depend upon you keeping same for me, for I think it **THE BEST ONION** that I have ever seen or raised in my twenty years of gardening, and want to sow them exclusively for keeping."

The BURBANK Preserving Tomato

In distinct character of growth this new Tomato shows to a marked degree what can be accomplished by skilful hybridization. Like the **BURBANK ROSE**, introduced by us, this is a creation of MR. LUTHER BURBANK'S, — the world-famous "WIZARD OF HORTICULTURE."

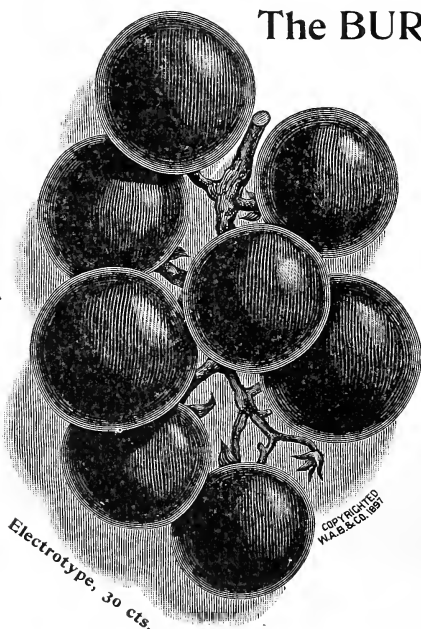
The stiff stems stand very erect until about one foot high, when, unless pruned or supported, they become semi-trailing. The foliage is set closely on the stem. The rich, dark-green leaves, although of good size, are very compact and heavily blistered, as in the original type of *Tomate de Lays*. The fruits are borne abundantly in clusters, as shown in the illustration engraved natural size from a photograph. Of the brightest scarlet color, no other small tomato is of such rich, sweet flavor.

Wholesale, \$4.00 per 100 packets.

New Tomato,— Dwarf GOLDEN Champion.

We were delighted with this distinct new Tomato, sent to us by a customer, and which we grew at **FORDHOOK FARM**, for the first time, in 1897. In dwarf, compact habit of growth and crumpled foliage the plant is an exact counterpart of the favorite **DWARF CHAMPION**, but the large, handsome fruits are of a beautiful *lemon-yellow* color, very solid and of unusually fine flavor. For years the *Golden Queen* has been the best large yellow tomato, but this will now have to take second place. We have called this rightly the **Dwarf GOLDEN Champion**, and can say that it is fully entitled to this name. Never before have we had a yellow Tomato that was so **large, solid, and fine-flavored**.

Wholesale, \$4.00 per 100 packets.



Burpee's FORDHOOK FANCY Tomato.

While unlike any other variety known, this is more than a novelty,—a genuine good market tomato.

The fruit is of large size, very solid, with but few seeds, of a rich ruby-red color and delicious flavor. The handsome, smooth fruits are borne in clusters of three and four, at every other joint, and as the joints are close together, the plant presents a very crowded appearance. Small plants, pruned to a single stem only, two and a half feet high, have produced four to five pounds of fruit.

From the appearance of the first leaves the plant resembles that of a potato—in fact, it might be called

The Potato-Leaf BUSH Tomato.

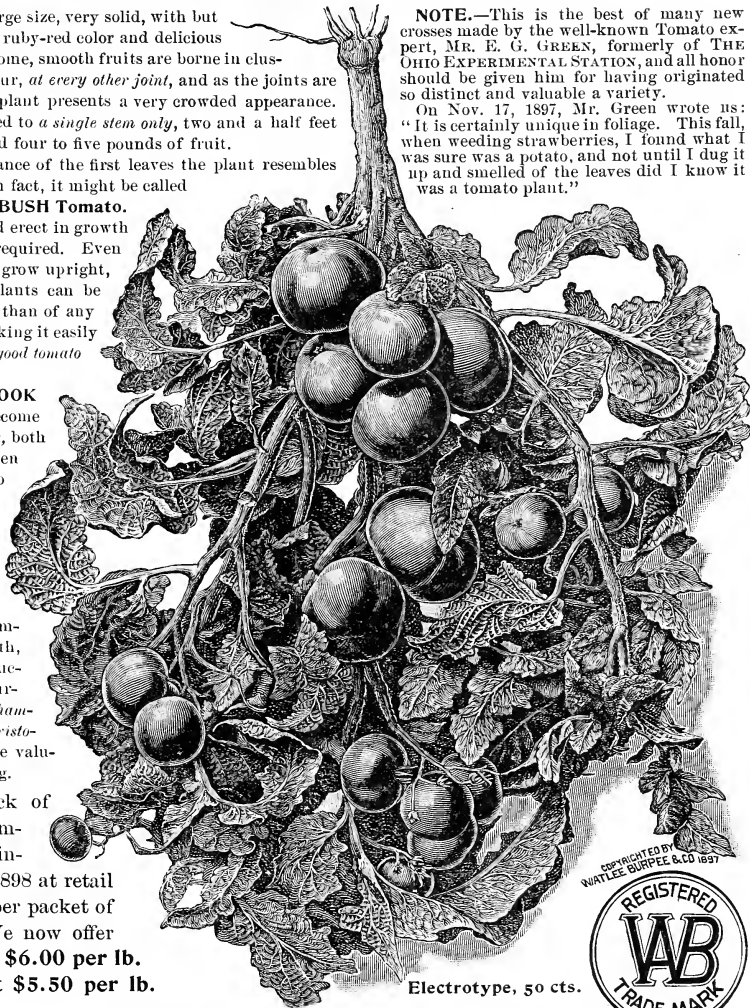
It is so compact and erect in growth that no stakes are required. Even the side branches grow upright, and hence more plants can be set to a given area than of any other variety,—making it easily the most productive good tomato in cultivation.

THE FORDHOOK FANCY will become immensely popular, both in the home garden and for shipping to market. The large solid fruits are always smooth and handsome, while the skin is not easily broken. In fine quality, compact, bushy growth, and immense productiveness it far surpasses the *Dwarf Champion* and *Dwarf Aristocrat* and will prove valuable also for forcing.

The stock of seed was so limited that we introduced it in 1898 at retail only at 25 cts. per packet of fifty seeds. We now offer at **Wholesale, \$6.00 per lb.**
10 lbs. at \$5.50 per lb.

NOTE.—This is the best of many new crosses made by the well-known Tomato expert, MR. E. G. GREEN, formerly of THE OHIO EXPERIMENTAL STATION, and all honor should be given him for having originated so distinct and valuable a variety.

On Nov. 17, 1897, Mr. Green wrote us: "It is certainly unique in foliage. This fall, when weeding strawberries, I found what I was sure was a potato, and not until I dug it up and smelled of the leaves did I know it was a tomato plant."



Electrotype, 50 cts.

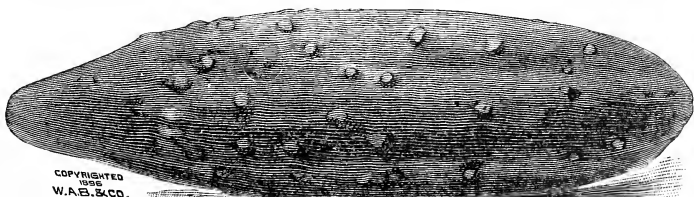
BURPEE'S FORDHOOK FANCY TOMATO. Engraved from a Photograph.

NEW CUCUMBER,—FORDHOOK PICKLING.

This distinct new Cucumber is wonderfully prolific, and might be termed a *continuous bearer*. Planted at the same time with other Cucumbers, the FORDHOOK PICKLING will continue to bear pickles plentifully after the other varieties have ripened their fruit and ceased to produce more. One of the requisites for a crisp, tender pickle is that the Cucumber should have a

WB *thin skin*,—this is a marked feature of the FORDHOOK PICKLING.

A strong and vigorous grower, it produces a greater length of vine and more fruits than any other variety. It has taken seven years to attain its present uniformity. We are sure that canners, market gardeners, and planters will be delighted with the FORDHOOK PICKLING CUCUMBER. Wholesale, 45 cts. per lb



FORDHOOK PICKLING CUCUMBER, from a Photograph. Electrotype, 30 cts.

WHOLESALE AGENTS IN EUROPE.

In order to accommodate the Seed Trade in Europe we have appointed the following well-known firms **Special Wholesale AGENTS** for the **THREE NEW CUPIDS**—**BEAUTY, PRIMROSE, and ALICE ECKFORD**—now first offered.

These houses will supply these novelties in original packets, on the same terms as if the orders were sent direct to us, and will also furnish electrotypes at the merely nominal prices named.

Sole Wholesale Agents for Great Britain, Australian Colonies, and India :

Messrs. HURST & SON, 152, Houndsditch, London.

Sole Wholesale Agents for France, Belgium, Spain, Portugal, and Italy :

Messrs. VILMORIN-ANDRIEUX & CO., Paris, France.

***Wholesale Agents for Germany, Holland, Austria, Hungary, Russia, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden :**

Messrs. DIPPE BROS., HAAGE & SCHMIDT, HENRI METTE, MARTIN GRASHOFF, FREDK. ROEMER, DAVID SACHS, and J. C. SCHMIDT.

Each firm named above has **a complete set of electrotypes** and is authorized to quote *special prices by the thousand packets*.

All orders from America (and Foreign Countries not named above) should be addressed to the introducers :

W. ATLEE BURPEE & CO., Philadelphia, Pa.

* In the case of the seven wholesale agents named for Germany, Holland, Austria, Russia, Norway, and Scandinavia, it is expected that seedsmen of these countries will procure their these novelties from the house with whom they are accustomed to deal.